The Postal Museum

Report on the Post Office employment of Frederick Smith

Thank you for your order for research into the Post Office career of Frederick Smith.

Using the information you provided, I first searched the Appointments indexes and located a record of appointment in the name of Frederick Smith:

- It shows the appointment of a 'Frederick Smith' on December 12th 1770, as Junior Tracer of Letters in the Inland Office.
  (COPY A1 and A2; Finding Number: POST 58/1)

I found Mr Smith in the establishment books of 1781 (Copy B1 and B2; Finding Number: POST 59/19) and 1783 (Copy C1 and C2; Finding Number: POST 59/20), both times mentioned as a 'Sorter'. The establishment books were produced on a yearly basis and listed all salaried staff.

I then searched the pension registers for an entry for Mr Smith. I looked through the years 1783 to 1786 (Finding Number: POST 1/12), unfortunately I couldn't find the mention of a pension. On the other hand, I did find for the year 1782, a record of his salary and an allowance of 28lbs of candles, with a proposed change of salary (Copy D1, D2, D3 and D4).

There are several reasons why we might not have found a pension record:

- As it was quite an early time, the records are patchy. Not everything has been recorded nor has come to the archives. At this time, not every employee would receive a pension. It wasn't until the government's Superannuation Act of 1859 that all civil servants (including Post Office staff) would start receiving pensions.
- It's possible that Mr Smith didn't qualify for a pension. He had only worked for the Post Office for a relatively short period, and left much younger than the usual age of retirement.
- Mr Smith could have retired later.

I looked at another series of records, the 'Post Office: Minute between the Secretary and Postmaster General' (Finding number: POST 35); unfortunately, there is no Minute Records before 1792.

You mentioned as other relevant information that Mr Smith had worked as an assistant to Henry Potts, Controller of the Post Office. Although we couldn't find any mention of Mr Frederick Smith working as his assistant in our archives, we have a pastel portrait of Henry Potts as Department Comptroller of the General Post-Office in London (Copy E; Reference number: 2004-0164)

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November 23rd 1770.

Ordered that Mr. Hayey be appointed Deputy of Cambridge in the Stead of Mr. [illegible]

November 26th 1770.

Ordered that Mr. Robert Thompson third Clerk in the Secretary's Office be appointed Junior Clerk in the Foreign Office in the stead of Mr. Pridell deceased and that his Share of the Fees on private Papers be continued to him whilst he remains Junior Clerk in the Department.

That Mr. Humphry Walcot do succeed Mr. Thompson as third Clerk in the Secretary's Office at a Salary of Sixty Pounds a year.

And that Mr. Thomas Thompson be appointed the Junior Clerk on the Vacancy occasioned by Mr. Robert Thompson's removal into the Foreign Office.

Ordered that Mrs. Eliz. Walmsley be appointed to succeed her late Husband as Deputy of Preston.

December 12th 1770:—

Ordered that Capt. Robert Dixon be appointed Commander of the Mercury Packet Boat in the New York Station.

Ordered that Mr. Frederick Smith be appointed Junior Taxer of Letters in the Ireland Office in the Vacancy occasioned by the Dismission of James Beal for taking money out of Letters.

December 18th 1770.

Ordered that Samuel Palmer Esq. be appointed Solicitor to the Office in the Stead of Robert Palmer Esq who has desired leave to resign.

Ordered

Ordered that Mr. Thomas Willis of the Ireland Office be appointed Junior Clerk in the Accountant's Office in the stead of Mr. James Rigg dismissed for non attendance; and that Mr. John Hatton be appointed Junior Taxer of Letters in the Ireland Office on the Vacancy occasioned by the Promotion of Mr. Willis.

Ordered that Capt. Thomas Boyhot be appointed to the command of the Dispatch Packet Boat on the Dover Station in the Stead of Captain John Bed Benett who has desired leave to resign on Account of his Age and infirmities on his allowing Capt. Benett one Hundred Pounds a year by quarterly Payments for the Life of the said Capt. Benett or so long as the said Capt. Boyhot shall command as Packet Boat any which in the Service of this Office, and in case Capt. Boyhot should die, quit, or be dismissed the Service before the Death of Capt. Benett.—

Ordered that the said One Hundred Pounds a year be continued to Capt. Benett by the Junior Captain on the Dover Station for the time being.

Ordered that Mr. John Jewell be appointed Deputy of Shoreham in the Stead of Mr. Thomas resigned.

Ordered that Mrs. Mary Dawson be appointed Deputy of Mansfield in the Stead of her Father resigned.

Ordered that Mrs. Mary Shaw be appointed Deputy of Bewby in the Stead of her Husband deceased.

Ordered that Mr. Thomas Barton be appointed Deputy of Sidsfield in the stead of Mr. Butler dismissed.

Ordered

Finding number: POST 58/1 Copy A1

UK, Postal Service Appointment Books, 1737-1969

Record Index

Name: Mr Frederick Smith
Appointed Date: 12 Dec 1770
Appointed Place: England
Industry: Postal Service

Source Information

Record Url: https://www.ancestryinstitution.com/imageviewer/collections/1933/images/31694_212084-00256

Source Citation: British Postal Museum and Archive; London, England; Post Office: Staff nomination and appointment, 1831-1969; Series Number: POST 58; Reference: 1

Source Information Ancestry.com. *UK, Postal Service Appointment Books, 1737-1969* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2010. This collection was indexed by Ancestry World Archives Project contributors.
Original data: Post Office: Staff nomination and appointment, 1831-1969. Microfilm, POST 58, 80 rolls. The Postal Museum. London, England.

Ordered that Capt Robert Dilon be appointed Commander of the Mercury Packet-Boat on the New York Station.

* Ordered that Mr Frederick Smith be appointed Junior Taxer of Letters in the Inland Office on the Vacancy occasioned by the Dismission of James Beal for taking money out of Letters.

December 18th 1770.

Ordered that Samuel Palmer Esq. be —

Finding number : POST 58/1 Copy A2

UK, Postal Service Appointment Books, 1737-1969

Record Index

Name: Mr Frederick Smith
Appointed Date: 12 Dec 1770
Appointed Place: England
Industry: Postal Service

Source Information

Record Url: https://www.ancestryinstitution.com/imageviewer/collections/1933/images/31694_212084-00256

Source Citation: British Postal Museum and Archive; London, England; Post Office: Staff nomination and appointment, 1831-1969; Series Number: POST 58; Reference: 1

Source Information Ancestry.com. *UK, Postal Service Appointment Books, 1737-1969* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2010. This collection was indexed by Ancestry World Archives Project contributors.
Original data: Post Office: Staff nomination and appointment, 1831-1969. Microfilm, POST 58, 80 rolls. The Postal Museum. London, England.

General Post Office.

		Salaries on the Establishmt	Salaries + allowances paid by Incidents	Total p annum.
Window Man on the Bye days.	John Irwin	50 . .	. . .	50 . .
Sorters	John Baptist Austin	50 . .	50 . .	100 . .
	Henry Desborough	50 . .	50 . .	100 . .
	Joseph Ruddick	50 . .	50 . .	100 . .
	Edmd B. Overall	50 . .	50 . .	100 . .
	Thomas Kempe.	50 . .	50 . .	100 . .
	James Hutton	50 . .	50 . .	100 . .
	Daniel Stow.	50 . .	. . .	50 . .
*	Fredk Smith	50 . .	. . .	50 . .
	John Hallett	50 . .	. . .	50 . .
	Saml Browne	. . .	50 . .	50 . .
	Francis Delaraua	. . .	50 . .	50 . .
	William Addison	. . .	50 . .	50 . .
	J. H. Briggs.	. . .	50 . .	50 . .
	Thomas Hird.	. . .	50 . .	50 . .
	Matthew Slater	. . .	50 . .	50 . .
	Wm Williams.	. . .	50 . .	50 . .
	John Carles.	. . .	50 . .	50 . .
	Robt Watts	. . .	50 . .	50 . .
	William Richardson	. . .	50 . .	50 . .
	Joseph Holdsworth	. . .	50 . .	50 . .
	Fredk Pippard.	. . .	50 . .	50 . .
	Fredk Haigh.	. . .	50 . .	50 . .
	John Mars.	. . .	50 . .	50 . .
	Charles J. Creswell.	. . .	50 . .	50 . .
	John Palmer.	. . .	50 . .	50 . .
	John Bishop.	. . .	50 . .	50 . .
	Robert Walpole	. . .	50 . .	50 . .
	Thomas Staales	. . .	50 . .	50 . .
	James Stafford.	. . .	50 . .	50 . .
	Henry Cook	. . .	50 . .	50 . .

Finding number: POST 59/20 Copy C1

	Henry Desborough	50	.	.	50	.	.	100	.
	Joseph Ruddick	50	.	.	50	.	.	100	.
	Edmd. B. Overall	50	.	.	50	.	.	100	.
	Thomas Kempe.	50	.	.	50	.	.	100	.
	James Hutton	50	.	.	50	.	.	100	.
	Daniel Stow.	50	.	.	.	.	.	50	.
*	Fredk. Smith	50	.	.	.	.	.	50	.
	John Hallett	50	.	.	.	.	.	50	.
	Saml. Browne	.	.	.	50	.	.	50	.
	Francis Delarauxi	.	.	.	50	.	.	50	.
	William Addison	.	.	.	50	.	.	50	.
	J. H. Briggs.	.	.	.	50	.	.	50	.
	Thomas Hird.	.	.	.	50	.	.	50	.
	Matthew Slater	.	.	.	50	.	.	50	.
	Wm. Williams.	.	.	.	50	.	.	50	.
	John Carter.	.	.	.	50	.	.	50	.
	Robt. Watts	.	.	.	50	.	.	50	.
	William Richardson	.	.	.	50	.	.	50	.
	Joseph Holdsworth	.	.	.	50	.	.	50	.

Finding number POST 59/20 Copy C2

Inland Office

Office and Title	Names	Salary ℔ Annum.
Window man on the Bye Days	Samuel Ardron Nov. 19. 1766	50
Sorters	~~Edward Thomas Tidcomb~~	50
	Charles Evans. Nov. 18. 1767	50
	John Irwin. Dec 28. 1767	50
	John Baptist Austin Feb 12. 1769	50
	Henry Desborough Dec 7 1769	50
	Joseph Ruddick. Jany 26 1770	50
	Edmund Bulkely Overall May 5 1770	50
	Thomas Kempe. May 8th 1770	50
	James Hutton. May 8. 1770	50
	Daniel Stow. May 8. 1770	50
	Frederick Smith. Dec 12 1770	50
	John Hollott. Dec 15 1770	50
	~~John Hagtrich~~	50
	Samuel Brown. Aug 7 1771	50
	Francis Delaveaux Dec 2nd 1771	50
	~~John Barber~~	50
	William Addison. Nov 4 1772	50
	John Hobart Briggs. Dec 20. 1774	50
	~~John Chinia~~	50
	Thomas Hird. Dec 7 1774	50

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Sorters	~~Edward Thomas Tidcomb~~	50
	Charles Evans. Nov. 18. 1767	50
	John Irwin. Dec 28. 1767	50
	John Baptist Austin Feb 8. 1769	50
	Henry Desborough Oct 7. 1769	50
	Joseph Ruddick. Jany 26. 1770	50
	Edmund Bulkely Overall May 5. 1770	50
	Thomas Kempe. May 8th 1770	50
	James Hutton. May 8. 1770	50
	Daniel Stow. May 8. 1770	50
	Frederick Smith. Dec 12 1770	50
	John Hollott. Dec 18th 1770	50
	~~John Hagloch~~	50
	Samuel Brown. Aug 17 1771	50
	Francis Delaunay [illegible]	50

*

Findera number: POST 59/19 Copy B2

	Salaries & Allowances	Fees Gratuities Perquisites Coals Candles &c.	Totals	Year of appointment.
Brought over ...	£1895	2933 12 2	£4,828 12	
Daniel Haw Window Man on the Bye Days.				1770 D
Salary	90			
From the Clerks of the Roads		10	100 19 6	
28 lb of Candles		19 6		
Frederick Smith				1770 F
Salary	90			
28 lb of Candles		19 6	90 19 6	
John Hallet				1770 J
Salary	80			
From the Clerks of the Roads		10	90 19 6	
28 lb of Candles		19 6		
Samuel Brown				1771 S
Salary	70			
From the Clerks of the Roads		12 12	83 11 6	
28 lb of Candles		19 6		
Francis Delavaux Deputy Inspector of Franks.				1771 F
Salary	50			
From the Clerks of the Roads		29 8	79 8	
William Addison				1772 W
Salary	50			
From the Clerks of the Roads		6 6	56 6	
John Hebart Briggs				1774 J
Salary	50			
From the Clerks of the Roads		12 12	62 12	
carried over	£2375	£3,017 17 2	£5,392 17 2	

Finding number POST 1/12 Copy D1

Amount.		Proposed Salaries
£4,828 1 2	Brought over	£5,770
	1770 Daniel Dow, a Sec.	
	Salary	120
100 14 6		
	1770 Frederick Smith. Do	
70 14 6	Salary	120
	1770 John Hallet ..... Do	
70 14 6	Salary	120
	1771. Samuel Brown ... Do	
83 11 6	Salary	120
	1771 Francis Delmans. Do	
7 4 8	Salary	120
	1772 William Addison .. Do	
56 6	Salary	120
	1774 John Robert Biggs. Do	
62 12	Salary	120
£5,397 17 1	carried over	£6,520

Brought over ... £1895		2,933 1 2	£4,828 1 2	
Daniel Stow Window Man on the Byes Days.				1770
Salary	90			
From the Clerks of the Roads		10	100 19 6	
28 lb of Candles		19 6		
Frederick Smith				1770
Salary	90			
28 lb of Candles		19 6	90 19 6	
John Hallot				1770
Salary	80			
From the Clerks of the Roads		10	90 19 6	
28 lb of Candles		19 6		
Samuel Brown				1771.
Salary	70			
From the Clerks of the Roads		12 12	83 11 6	

ng number: POST 1/42 Copy D3

appointment.

Proposed

Brought over ... £570 0 0

1770 Daniel Stow, a letter.

Salary ... 120 0 0

1770 Frederick Smith. Do

Salary ... 120 0 0

1770 John Hallot ..... Do

Salary ... 120 0 0

1771. Samuel Brown ... Do

Salary ...

Document number: POST 1/12 Copy D4